

Amendment No. 1 to SB7006

**Norris
Signature of Sponsor**

AMEND Senate Bill No. 7006

House Bill No. 7008*

by adding the following new section immediately preceding next to the last section and by renumbering the subsequent section accordingly:

SECTION __. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 9, is amended by adding the following language as a new Part 16:

49-9-1601. The purpose of this part is to accomplish the following:

(a) Establish the University of Memphis as the lead University in a collaborative venture focusing on research, healthcare, long-term economic development, and job creation;

(b) Foster economic growth by significantly increasing the number of science, technology, engineering and mathematics doctoral students produced at the University of Memphis and expand the number of University of Memphis graduate students conducting their graduate research and education, working with scientific staff, and using the unique facilities at various partnering research facilities;

(c) Accelerate the state's economic and workforce development efforts in the fields of science, technology, engineering, medicine, and mathematics;

(d) Support the University of Memphis in its role as the hub of the Memphis Coalition for Advanced Networking, a major regional research and education cyber-infrastructure providing access to Oak Ridge National Laboratories and the national high speed data network,

(e) Leverage for the purposes set forth herein the existing capabilities of the University of Memphis and partnering research facilities;

(f) Elevate the status of the University of Memphis as a top tier national research institution through expanded collaboration with partnering research facilities;

(g) Encourage and facilitate the development of interdisciplinary programs in science, technology, engineering, medicine, and mathematics at the University of Memphis that will provide students an opportunity to undertake transformative research activities; and

(h) Promote and develop support for collaborative research and development by interdisciplinary teams of University of Memphis faculty and partnering research facilities.

49-9-1602.

(a) The University of Memphis is authorized to establish an academic unit of the university for interdisciplinary research and education in collaboration with various partners in Tennessee which includes, but is not limited to: St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Bioworks Foundation, units of the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center, Southwest Tennessee Community College, healthcare and medical device industries, FedEx Corporation, and other leaders in the corporate community.

(b) The president of the University of Memphis and the directors or leadership of the partners described in subsection (a) are authorized to enter into agreements concerning collaboration in interdisciplinary research and education designed to accomplish the purposes of this part. The provisions of each agreement shall address matters including, but not limited to the appointment and oversight of graduate students, the

appointment of partners' staff as faculty, and the development of interdisciplinary curricula as between the University of Memphis and the partner.